UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/911,061	07/23/2001	Yihsiu Chen	2001-0056	3217

7590 02/07/2006	**EXAMINER**
Samuel H. Dworetsky	TRAN, NGHI V
AT&T CORP.	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2151	

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DATE MAILED: 02/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/911,061	CHEN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Nghi V. Tran	2151	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *20 January 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *22-27* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) *1-21* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *22-27* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this

application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action

has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on January

20, 2006 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3.   Claims 22-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Liu, U.S. Patent No. 6,079,020 (hereinafter Liu), in view of Larson et al., U.S. Patent

Application Publication No. 2004/0107286 (hereinafter Larson).

4.   With respect to claim 22, Liu teaches a method practiced at a network interface

unit (NIU) directly connected to at least one local area network (LAN), said NIU also

being connected to a non-secure node of a second network, which second network is in

packet communication with at least one access node of a secure virtual private network

(VPN) [figs.1-2 and see abstract], the method comprising:

- receiving data packets from at least one device on said at least one LAN

   [210],

- multiplexing said data packets into at least one packet data stream [col.7,

   lns.8-67],

- modifying said packet data streams in a security server in said NIU in

   accordance with a secure communication protocol by encrypting packets in

   said data streams and encapsulating resulting encrypted packets [240].

However, Liu does not explicitly show providing network destination address

information from a Domain Name System (DNS) server for at least selected ones of

said data streams.

In a method for establishing secure communication, Larson discloses providing

network destination address information from a DNS server for at least selected ones of

said data streams [paragraphs 0024, 0225, 0260-0268].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention was made to modify Liu in view of Larson by providing network

destination address information from a DNS server for at least selected ones of said

data streams because this feature is enabled at a first computer without a user entering

any cryptographic information for establishing the secure communication mode of

communication [Larson, see abstract]. It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in

the art at the time of the invention would have been motivated in order to automatically

create of a VPN in response to a DNS server look-up function [Larson, paragraph

0261].

5.   With respect to claim 23, Liu is silent on said modifying said packet data streams

in a security server comprises modifying said packet streams in an IPsec server.

In a virtual private network, Larson discloses said modifying said packet data

streams in a security server comprises modifying said packet streams in an IPsec

server [paragraph 0285].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention was made to modify Liu in view of Larson by modifying said packet

streams in an IPsec server because this feature is enabled at a first computer without a

user entering any cryptographic information for establishing the secure communication

mode of communication [Larson, see abstract]. It is for this reason that one of ordinary

skill in the art at the time of the invention would have been motivated in order to

automatically create of a VPN in response to a DNS server look-up function [Larson,

paragraph 0261].

6.   With respect to claim 24, Liu further teaches a method comprising:

- receiving at least one stream of data packets from said non-secure network
  [300 and 310],

- filtering out packets in said streams of received packets that are not from said VPN network, said filtering being performed by a firewall in said security server [320],

- modifying said packets in said at least one stream by decrypting said packets in said at least one received data stream and decapsulating resulting decrypted packets, said decrypting and decapsulating being performed by said security server [340],

- demultiplexing said at least one stream of received data packets to form at least one demultiplexed stream of data packets for delivery to said at least one LAN [350].

7.   With respect to claim 25, Liu further teaches authenticating client devices on said at least one LAN, and wherein packets from authenticated client devices on said at least one LAN that are received at said network interface device are processed as packets received from said VPN [col.3, lns.1-61].

8.   With respect to claim 26, Liu further teaches wherein said non-secure node of a second network is part of said NIU [131].

9.   With respect to claim 27, Liu further teaches wherein said at least selected ones of said at least one packet data stream are applied to said non-secure node of said second network [fig.1].

Response to Arguments

12.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 22-27 have been considered but are

moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

14.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Nghi V. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-

4067. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Zarni Maung can be reached on (571) 272-3939. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Nghi V Tran
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2151

NT

ZARNI MAUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER